

THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

1645

us at some length about the situation. He expressed grave doubts about the wisdom of bringing the Czar to England, and said he had asked the Russian Premier on the previous day why they would not let the Emperor go to Livadia, his palace in the Crimea, where it would surely be easy both to isolate and to protect him. The Premier

" answered that the journey would involve far too serious risks. He wished that he could get the Emperor out of Russia soon, because all the time he was there a possibility existed of a restoration movement, and if any sign of counter-revolution appeared there would be deadly danger for the Czar. The Premier still understands that we should allow the Czar to come to England. . . "

But on this prospect, the Ambassador noted that

" the parties of the Extreme Left, who are far from friendly to us, and the agents of Germany, would certainly use his presence in England as an excuse for rousing public opinion against us. . . "

and he suggested that it would be better if the Emperor went to France. On the following day he sent us a letter in which he said he had suggested to Prince Lvoff that the Czar should be allowed to go to Livadia ; but the Prince had expressed the fear

that the train would be held up by
workmen and
the Czar's life endangered.

It was in fact clear that the Russian
Government
was held irresolute by divided counsel—
anxious on
the one hand to be quit of responsibility
for the Czar,
and on the other, dreading the anger of
the extreme